AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the

application:

Listing of Claims:

1. – 44.   (Cancelled)

45.   (Previously Presented) A system for receiving electronic program guide (EPG) data from one or more EPG data providers in a plurality of data formats and for providing consolidated EPG data available in a standardized format to one or more applications running on the system, comprising:

an EPG services module for receiving EPG data from a plurality of EPG data providers and providing consolidated EPG data in a standardized format to the one or more applications residing on the system, the EPG services module comprising:

one or more EPG loader modules with a separate EPG loader module for each EPG data source, each EPG loader module being configured to receive EPG data from an EPG data provider in a native format used by the EPG data provider and including computer executable instructions for converting the EPG data received from the EPG data provider from its native format to a standardized format compatible with the EPG services module and the one or more applications;

an EPG writer module logically connected to each of the one or more EPG loader modules with computer executable instructions for

collecting the EPG data in the standardized format from the one or more EPG loader modules;

scaling the collected EPG data both temporally and selectively, wherein temporal scaling includes selecting an adjustable and user-definable time period for which the collected EPG data will be stored, and wherein selective scaling includes selecting a variable and customizable

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level of richness for which a variable amount of the collected EPG data will be stored corresponding to one or more selected channels; and

writing the scaled EPG data of the standardized format to a storage associated with the system; and

an EPG control module having computer executable instructions for

receiving requests for EPG data from the one or more applications;

retrieving the EPG data responsive to the request from the storage; and

returning the requested EPG data to the one or more applications; and

an application program interface configured to provide a standardized interface between the EPG control module and the one or more applications requiring EPG data,

such that the system can be readily modified to add additional EPG data. providers, to remove existing EPG data providers, or to accommodate changes in the native formats of existing or future EPG data providers without having to modify or update the code of any of the one or more applications.

46.   (Cancelled)

47.   (Previously Presented) A system as recited in claim 45, wherein the variable amount of collected EPG data is selectively scaled according to time.

48.   (Previously Presented) A system as defined in claim 45, wherein the writer module further comprises computer executable instructions for resolving conflicts between EPG data received from two or more EPG data providers.

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49.   (Previously Presented) A system as defined in claim 45, wherein the one or more loader modules further comprise computer executable instructions for implementing a priority scheme.

50.   (Previously Presented) A system as defined in claim 45, wherein the EPG writer module further comprises computer executable instructions for limiting the amount of the EPG data that may be placed in the storage.

51.   (Previously Presented) A system as defined in claim 50, wherein the EPG writer module further comprises computer executable instructions for removing expired EPG data from the storage.

52.   (Previously Presented) A system as defined in claim 51, wherein the EPG writer module further comprises computer executable instructions for keeping the last EPG data stored to a particular portion of the storage.

53.   (Previously Presented) A system as defined in claim 45, wherein the storage is a database.

54.   (Previously Presented) A system as defined in claim 45, wherein the one or more EPG loader modules further comprises computer executable instructions for recording EPG data with digital recordings of programming represented by the EPG data.

55.   (Previously Presented) A system as defined in claim 45, wherein each of the EPG loader modules is capable of being added to the device and removed from the device.

56. – 70.   (Cancelled)

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71. (Previously Presented) A system as recited in claim 45, wherein the variable amount of the collected EPG data includes a television program title, a description and attribute of television programming.

72. (Previously Presented) A system as recited in claim 45, wherein the scaling results in the stored EPG data corresponding to more impending broadcast times being richer than EPG data corresponding to less impending broadcast times.

73. – 74. (Cancelled)

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